

HOUSE No. 2070

By Mr. Speliotis of Danvers, petition of Theodore C. Speliotis that the Registrar of Motor Vehicles be directed to issue distinctive license plates for the preservation of open space. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT TO CREATE AN OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION LICENSE PLATE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Offi-
2 cial Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end of section
3 2E the following paragraph:—

4 The registrar shall furnish, upon application, to the owners of
5 private passenger motor vehicles distinctive registration plates
6 bearing the state bird, state flower or other symbol associated with
7 the natural beauty of the Commonwealth.

8 Any Massachusetts resident may submit a plate design to be
9 chosen as a design for an open space license plate. The decision
10 will be made by a committee consisting of the Registrar of Motor
11 Vehicles or his designee, two members from the House of Repre-
12 sentatives, one of whom is appointed by the Speaker of the House
13 and one of whom is appointed by the Minority Leader of the
14 House; two members from the Senate, one of whom is appointed
15 by the Senate President and one of whom is appointed by the
16 Minority Leader of the Senate; the Secretary of the Executive
17 Office of Environmental Affairs or his designee, and a Chair, who
18 shall be appointed by the Governor. Designs must be submitted to
19 the Commonwealth within sixty (60) days of the enactment of this
20 law and the design must be chosen within sixty (60) days of the
21 deadline.

22 There shall be a one-time forty-dollar (\$40) fee paid for said
23 plate in addition to the established registration fee for passenger

24 motor vehicles, there shall be an annual renewal fee of twenty-
25 five dollars (\$25).

26 The portion of said fee remaining after the deduction of costs
27 directly attributable to issuing said plate shall be transferred to the
28 Executive Office of Environmental Affairs for the sole purpose of
29 acquiring and protecting open space.

30 Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or specific law
31 to the contrary, the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs is
32 hereby directed to create an Open Space License Plate Fund, and
33 further directed to draft regulations to distribute the proceeds of
34 said fund through an Open Space License Plate Grant Program.